

C. H. S.

BANDWAGON

1954, Vol. 5—JUNE

25c



—Photo Courtesy Cincinnati Enquirer

RAYMOND G. WHITE, C. H. S. MEMBER

(See article on page 3)

————— The Circusiana Magazine ————

CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1939

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The Editor Says

Let me add my word of invitation to COME to COLUMBUS. This does seem like a centrally located spot with fine connections by railroad, airplane, bus or auto. Route 40 goes through Columbus and that is a route used by a lot of cross countrying folks. So hitch up the old gray mare, get your wife and kids in the buggy and head for the Capitol of Ohio.

Columbus is a beautiful city, has very nice stores, the beautiful campus of Ohio State University and a fine zoo, so there will be plenty to do if you get tired of talking circus (which I doubt).

Let's make this the best ever. Why don't you get your wife to join out before the Convention so she can be a voting member. Maybe some of you subscribers would like to become members also.

NEW MEMBERS

A. J. Ahrensmeyer, No. 554
2306 Lakeland Ave.,
Madison 4, Wisconsin.

William A. Griffith, Jr., No. 555
1306 N. Appleton,
Appleton, Wisc.

Circus "Greats" Pictured In Collection Of Whitey, Circus Enthusiast

By Charles W. Etsinger, Cincinnati Enquirer

RICHMOND, Ind., May 31—Raymond G. White, 70, is undoubtedly Richmond's No. 1 circus fan.

There may be dissenters who will argue that one shouldn't overlook such ardent local fans as Robert C. King, secretary-treasurer of the Circus Historical Society and publisher here of the society's *The Bandwagon*; or Ted Engel, Harry Eadler and Fred Lohman, all long time enthusiasts of the "Big Top."

But when it comes to collecting photographs of circus personalities, views, route books, news items about circus lore, traveling long distances to see performances, as well as attending conventions of the Circus Fans Association and the Circus Historical Society, "Whitey," as he is familiarly known along Main Street, has no equal here.

Mr. White first fell in love with the circus a half century ago but didn't start collecting sizeable amounts of literature on the subject until recent years when ill health prevented his continuing at work on construction jobs.

He rooms at 221 W. Main St., but gets his mail at the Eagles' Clubrooms, 22 S. Seventh St. He has been active in the Eagles Lodge here for 41 years.

His trunk and suitcases at his room are crammed with circus material and he says he enjoys his hobby of reviewing the clippings and pictures and getting them in shape so they can be displayed properly.

Mr. White seldom misses a circus performance if it is within a reasonable distance from Richmond. He says he has seen circuses in virtually every large city of the United States. He speaks with familiarity of the great names in the circus industry, has become the friend of many a performer and has obtained numerous autographed pictures for his collection. He orders route cards of many circuses and reads avidly *The Billboard* and other publications providing circus news.

As an active member of the Circus Fans Association of America, he will attend that group's convention June 24-26 at Jackson, Mich. He is also a member of the Circus Historical Society and will attend its session July 24-27 at Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. White now has the time and energy to devote to his hobby. He never married and his only close relative is a sister, Mrs. Isa Worth, 1519 N. D. St.

"After a person works hard all his life, he has to do something to keep himself busy or he'll go to pieces," says Mr. White in explaining the fervor with which he follows his hobby. He also collects historical items and pictures about Richmond and nearby areas. Among non-circus items, Mr. White likes to display is an official players' souvenir of the champion Cincinnati Reds of 1919, who were managed by Pat Moran.

Mr. White was born at McPherson, Kans. His father, an attorney, served the government for a number of years in Oklahoma Indian territory. Young Raymond White went in 1806 to Chicago, where he recalls he signed with a newspaper boys' singing outfit. Later he lived at Liberty, Ind., then came to Richmond, where he worked as a stagehand at the old Gennett Theater. There he met such personalities as Eva Tanguay, the "I Don't Care" girl, Eddie Foy, and Harry (Singin' Sam) Frankel, then in his early singing days.

Mr. White displayed to the reporter pictures of Buffalo Bill Cody, Pawnee Bill, P. T. Barnum's 1878 train, accidents, floods and tragedies affecting circuses, clowns, aerialists, many acts, old-time circus equipment, side show personalities. The reporter was particularly interested in a series of pictures showing the 1903 flood at Bucyrus, Ohio, the reporter's home town, and damage the flood caused to the Wallace circus. The big tent was shown surrounded by water; horses were pulling the massive wagon from the flood area. Mr. White also has pictures of the disastrous Ringling Bros. fire at Hartford, Conn., in the 1940's.

The Richmond man corresponds with other old-time circus fans. He admires C. H. White, 94, (no relation) of Fredonia, Kans., who is believed to be the oldest living animal trainer. The Fredonia man traveled for Barnum from 1872 to 1878 as "cat" animal trainer. He later became a railroader. He never lost his affection for the circus and circus folk. He never misses a circus within 100 miles of his home and attends most of the circus group conventions.

Whitey also likes to point with pride at some of the construction jobs on which he worked here many years ago. On some of them he was a labor foreman. The buildings included Morton Center and the Dickinson Trust Co. Mr. White has held a labor union card since 1910.

In World War I, Mr. White enlisted in the Army in 1917 and later served with a heavy artillery unit in France. He is the oldest member of Kirk Little Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the second oldest member of Harry Ray Post, American Legion.

He enjoys chatting with friends downtown about many subjects but his eyes really brighten when the talk eventually turns to "what's new in the circus business?"

FREAK CALF

If any of you are interested in a male calf born with only three legs, this is your chance. The black calf is healthy with one front leg missing and was born April 18, 1954.

If interested write to:

Mr. Joe Bieringer
Sauk Centre, Minn.
R. R. No. 1, Box 142

Dr. Carl Frischkorn

The Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch, Monday, June 7, 1954

EDITOR'S NOTE—Many of us remember meeting Dr. "Karland" at Cincinnati when we held our 1951 Convention. He kept everyone in good spirits. He was particularly kind to "Dad" White when he fell. Our sympathy goes to his sister.

Cut courtesy of Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch

Funeral services for Dr. Frischkorn, widely known naturopathic and chiropractic physician of Norfolk for the last 40 years, who died Saturday at 4:45 p.m. in a local hospital after a long illness, will be conducted at the Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home tomorrow at 3 p.m. The Rev. P. Rowland Wagner, pastor of Central Baptist Church, will officiate. Interment will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Dr. Frischkorn, who had been in failing health for the last two years, was one of Norfolk's best known magicians and showmen. He resided at Lynnhaven for years, but recently occupied a flat adjacent to his offices in the Merrimac Apartments, 338 Boush Street.



DR. CARL S. FRISCHKORN

Pennsylvania Native

A native of Moscow, Pa., he was a son of the late Herman George and Mrs. Willanette Brown Frischkorn, of Germany. He had lived in Norfolk for 36 years.

Surviving are one sister, Mrs. Mary W. Emerson, of Norview, and one niece, Mrs. Mary E. Schaub, of Guantanamo, Cuba.

Dr. Frischkorn was graduated from the American School of Chiropractics and the American School of Naturopathics, Chicago, Ill.; Howard College of Psychoanalysis, and the Howard Postgraduate School of Chiropractics.

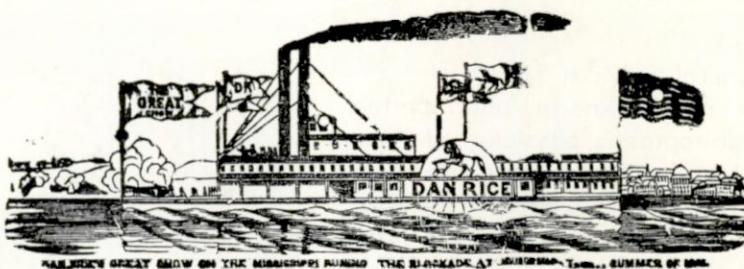
Honored by Magicians

Attesting to the esteem for which he was held by the city's fraternity of magicians, several months ago, Tidewater Ring 103, International Brotherhood of Magicians, was renamed in his honor the Karland-Frischkorn Ring 103. Just last Thursday, the ring members voted him in as an honorary lifetime member.

He was a founder of Blackstone Ring No. 1, an amateur magicians' group of Norfolk.

Dan Rice Ledger Reveals Circus Conditions In 1870

By John C. Kunzog



RAILROAD GREAT SHOW ON THE MISSISSIPPI DURING THE BLACKADE AT NEW ORLEANS, SUMMER OF 1861.

Above is a reproduction of old engraving found in a print shop formerly owned by Dan Rice when he published the weekly *Cosmopolite* at Girard, Pa. This engraving was used on heralds and other advertising matter and its appearance shows it had rugged service. Note hole in flag where printer drove nail to secure it to wooden block after having worked loose. This boat is probably the Will S. Hays, which cost Rice \$10,000.

"Luxury of choking a blackguard, \$5.00."

So reads a debit in the Dan Rice's personal account in the show's ledger for the season of 1870. The entry was made August 13, and the book lists the show as being at Owego, N. Y., on that date. Just what happened on that auspicious occasion that the great Dan Rice should seek personal satisfaction is a matter of conjecture. The entry, however, is silent evidence that Rice brooked no nonsense on the circus lot, and was not averse to taking matters in his own hands.

In a red leather-covered book, lettered in gold, reading "Ledger, Dan Rice's Own Circus" is contained a highly interesting and illuminating story of the show for the season of 1870.

Transportation of the show was by two river boats, the W. A. Eddy and the Will S. Hays. The steam boat W. A. Eddy was purchased that season from Jacob Wise (no address given) for a total of \$1,100.00. On June 15, the ledger shows, that Rice made an initial payment of \$100.00, on June 22 he paid \$400.00 in cash and gave a 30-day note for \$600.00, which note was paid in full on July 29. On June 4 the show was at Covington, Ky., where P. Connelly did some work on one of the boats, the entry reading: "By bill Iron Work, New Chimneys and Britching on Boat, \$360.00." This was paid in full.

The show print house of Russell, Morgan & Co., Cincinnati, furnished some posters. On June 3 there was an entry "bill of printing, \$685.05." On June 8, \$500.00 was sent and on the 18th a sight draft was honored for \$185.05. On July 8 another entry was listed in this account reading: "To cash on C.O.D. sent to Erie, Pd. by J. B. K." (These initials refer to John B. Kibler, general advance agent for the show).

A newspaper advertisement of the show for that year reads:

Dan Rice with his own Tripartite Circus, Trick Horse Ampliation and Asiatic Animal Spectacle. Re-organized and magnificently equipped for the summer campaign of 1870.

The perfection of his grand and original system of physical education and animal training, and containing the grandest number of performing trick and school horses ever seen under one tent; the most novel animals, and a group of the finest artists in the world. Every one a star!

With "Old" Dan Rice, both afternoon and evening in his old-time character of Clown. Attended by a Bevy of Belles and Monarchs of Muscle, among whom are Frederick O'Brien, Erin's Arenic Sunburst, who, though a new candidate for Northern favor, is known throughout the entire South and Southwest as a most daring and extraordinary man, whose Giant Battout Leaps and Double Somersaults are terrific demonstrations of his superiority.

MISS LIZZIE MARCELLUS, the great juvenile premiere equestrienne, and the beautiful, youthful sensation of the day, whose spirited and elegant illustrations charmingly exemplify "the poetry of motion," and captivate wherever she appears.

MADAME TREWALLA, the lovely and talented character equestrienne.

MADAME ROLLANDE, a renowned brilliant and versatile artiste.

THE IRISH BROTHERS, Professors of Calisthenics in the Dublin Gymnasium, and whose acts are unapproachable for novelty, nerve and grace.

ROBERT G. MILLER, the muscular phenomenon, in his marvelous feats of strength, appropriately entitled "The Labors of Hercules."

WILLIAM E. ROLLANDE—Dan Rice's clown second, and the Humpty Dumpty of sawdust pantomime.

WILLIAM G. MILES—The irresistible, ludicrous comic actor and acrobat.

MR. JOHN H. TREWALLA—The Master Whip and Equestrian Director.

Together with a large and efficient corps of first-class general performers.

A galaxy of equine "stars."

1st—The \$100,000 Blind Marvel, Excelsior, Jr.

2nd—The magnificent and fiery Arabian trick charger, Stephen A. Douglas.

3rd—The noble passenger and messenger bred educated horse, Andy Curtin.

4th—The beautiful Lexington filly, Rebecca.

5th—The Spanish bred Andalusian school mare, Julia.

6th—The jumping pony, Wildcat.

The notorious clown mules, Pete and Barney.

TIMOUR—The monster giant Yak of Turkey.

A heard of Sacred Cattle—sole imported type of their worshipped race, and in size and perfect beauty royal specimens of the Hindu Mild-Eyed Gods.

RICHARD CLARK, the great juvenile hurdle rider.

ALBERT RICHARDS, the renowned double somersault turner, leaper and gymnast.

R. J. JAYNES, the Mercury of the horizontal bar.

Twin Sacred Calves, male and female, born March 5th, 1870, at Star Plantation, St. Charles Parish, La.

A flock of Palestine sheep.

Don't fail to be on time to witness Dan Rice's greatest and latest novelty—8-Horse Ballet, or, The Vision of the Centaurs—with which each program will be inaugurated.

The arrival of the Great Tripartite Circus and Ampliation and Spectacle will be heralded by a parade on horseback of Edgar Mentor's admirable Silver Cornet Band—but no street swindle or so-called Grand Parade will be given at the expense of those who pay to see a circus and not a bedizened and "loud" outside advertisement on wheels. Dan Rice's motto is: "Inside Performance without outside display, instead of Outside Display without inside performance."

A spacious and brilliantly lighted tent and ample room—comfortable seats for all.

Special Note: The horses of this magnificent establishment are exempted from the distressing and ruinous toll of the road, and retain unimpaired that nobility of presence, power of action and fiery spirit absolutely necessary to a perfect and thrilling equestrian representation.

Admission 50c; Children under 10—25c.

* * *

The newspaper ad fails to mention one of the attractions that season, A. Segrist, the Velocipede Man. The ledger shows that Segrist joined the show at Oil City, Pa., July 11, while the circus was playing in that oil metropolis. His ledger page makes interesting reading for it shows that Dan Rice blew nobody's horn but his own—if he had to pay the bill. Segrist was paid \$25.00 a week for his act, which was considered a good price if the salaries paid the other performers are accepted as a criterion, for Robert Miller, the strong man, received a salary of only \$10.00 per week.

On the day Segrist joined the show he was advanced \$15.90 for express charges; \$3.50 to pay B. Smith for carpenter work, and \$41.75 for 600 velocipede bills and express charges on the same. In August the Velocipede Man evidently felt the need of more publicity for on August 11 another debit of \$41.75 for bills is made.

The show boat boasted a bar where the thirsty circus folk could slake their thirst, but pity the poor circus hand whose love for "the cup that cheers" was so great that his bar bill would exceed 50% of his salary, for Rice made short shrift of such individuals. Here is an example:

A man named Ira, a groom, at a salary of \$20 a month. He joined April 15 at Friars Point, Miss. On the 24th his bar bill totaled \$4.50, and was so entered in the book. On the 25th he was advanced \$1.00 in cash, and the following day an entry of a bar bill for \$2.25 was made. He was given \$2.50 in cash and that ended his connection with the show. He had earned \$10.00 and had spent \$6.50 for liquor.

A. E. Mentor's Band was with the show that season, as it had been for many years previously. Mr. Mentor received \$30 a week for his services. Peter Bohl, Edward Castello, William Fetzer, Charles L. Griffin, Fred Hoffmeister, C. Seborn, Robert Trinkman each received \$18 a week for their services as musicians; Oscar Fredericks re-

ceived \$75 a month; Benjamin F. Phillips, \$40 a month; Herman Rottkay, \$16 weekly; Joseph Williams, \$70 a month; while Hiram Hymes, snare drummer, received only \$20 a month for his services.

Bill posters were paid at the rate of \$20 per month, and those listed in this category are Spencer Lecky, C. C. Northrup, Reece C. Petty.

Advance agents were John B. Kibler, no salary mentioned; and Sid F. Stevens, who received \$50 a month. Charles Stowe was listed as publicity agent, but no mention made as to his salary. (Author's note: Stowe also was editor of Rice's weekly newspaper in Girard, The Cosmopolite, during the winter season).

D. A. Keyes was listed as an advertiser. On August 29, there is an entry reading "To cash to avert. Philadelphia, \$25.00." On September 2 another entry reads: "To cash expenses to Philadelphia &c \$35.00."

Salaries paid some of the performers that season make interesting reading: Charles F. Reed, bareback rider, \$100 a week; his wife, Elizabeth, a daughter of Dan Rice, received \$25 a week for a menage act. William Rollande, horseman and second clown, received \$40, while his wife as an equestrienne, received \$10. John Trewalla, equestrian, \$25, his wife for a pony act received but \$10. Fred O'Brien, leaper and acrobat, received \$40 weekly.

Lizzie Marcellus, a pupil of Dan Rice, who in later years won the acclaim of the public as a graceful and skillful rider, was with the show that season. The ledger shows several debits in her account such as parasol, washing, sewing, rubbers and meng. shoes, dentistry, stockings, but there is no inkling as to her salary—if any.

Grooms were paid at the rate of \$20 per month, but Fred Brindle was \$5 the best every three months, for he received \$5 a week for taking care of the Yak.

William L. Cotton, a groom, was no doubt quite a ladies' man, for on various dates he was charged 50c for tickets to the show. He was probably also a fighter for on June 9 an entry reads: "To Cash, Fine & Costs, Newport, \$5.00." On Sept. 16 he was charged \$2.00 for "1 lantern."

Dennis Jacobs, third cook, was charged 75c for losing a bucket; William Kelly, groom, was charged \$4.00 for losing a horse blanket; Joe Nich was more fortunate, for on May 23 he was paid \$3.00 for finding center pole ring, yet on the 28th he was charged 50c for a show ticket.

David Cappel, props, and Charles Sizer, circus hand, must have "missed the boat" on October 9, for on that date both were charged with \$1.50 wagon fare, each \$1 for a banner stick, and Cappel an additional 50c for key to ticket wagon.

A circus hand named Tom joined May 15. An entry made on the 25th reads: "Got drunk today and left, leaving Bar Bill \$4.33."

The show opened at Friars Point, Miss., April 15 and closed at Rochester, Pa., October 8, having showed in 12 states and played 140 stands, which with three exceptions were all one day stands.

At Cleveland, Ohio, on July 21, the license was only taken out for the velocipede show, but on the following two days the complete circus showed, one day in the East Side and the following day on the West Side.

Circus Barlay

Sent in by Fritz Dillenberg

The Berlin' Circus season is drawing to an end. I am very pleased to be able to say that the Circus Barlay in the Russian Sector of the town has done its very best to present an international programme, and one can only congratulate the management for having succeeded in spite of the existing difficulties.

The main attraction this month is the sympathetic **Chrysis de la Grange**, working at the vertical rope, a very fine act. Surely she is at present the best artiste existing in this style of work.

It is always a pleasure to see again the High School Rider **Moeser José** and his high school at long bridle. He is today one of the best existing high school riders, as he trains his horses himself from the beginning.

No need to report again about "**Nelly**," the talking elephant, an act which is always attractive and which causes always pleasure to the audience, though I myself have seen the act already nine times.

After a long absence one could see again in the circus ring the reputed trainer of chimpanzees **Emil Kling** with his new animals. In spite of the fact that the chimpanzees are not yet entirely used to the work in the circus ring, one must appreciate the entirely new style of work which caused much laughter amongst the audience.

Excellent is also the group of five tigers presented by **Manfred Benneweis**, a very fine work and well presented. This act proves again that Gilbert Houcke has shown new ways in the presentation of tigers in Europe.

I terminate my report with an appreciation of **Helmut Rudat**, a young horse trainer who is beginning to play a role in his branch. Perfect is his presentation of two horses without whip or anything else. I cannot remember to have seen in Germany a similar presentation during the past 30 years.

I am looking forward to see the Circus Barlay again in next November.

HONORARY MEMBER PASSES

Charles Gerlach, Honorary member of the Circus Historical Society, has died. He had been in ill health for some time. Burial was in Buffalo, New York, on April 22, 1954.

Circus Chronology, 1953

"Reprinted from the Billboard, January 9, 1954"

Compiled by Tom Parkinson

JUNE

ELEANOR PELIKAN, mother of the late Lillian Leitzel, died at Milwaukee.

RINGLING-BARNUM, at Philadelphia, keystoned the greatest aggregation of outdoor show property of all time, with Strates, Penn Premier and John H. Marks carnivals, a Kiddieland, two blocks of independent concessions and other attractions arrayed around the Big One. Layout included 10 Ferris Wheels.

WASHINGTON, D. C., business was off for Ringling. Earlier, Hunt had shown a decrease around the capital city.

KING-CRISTIANI entered Canada in time to cash in on Coronation Day festivities. Wallace & Clark and Hagan-Wallace were heading for Western Canada.

COLE & WALTERS business was poor in Iowa.

HAGAN BROS. was doing well around Chicago.

POLACK'S WEST COAST business was holding high. Light crowds turned out for Rogers Bros.

EARL SHIPLEY resigned as outdoor rep for AGVA.

VICE-PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON was fall guy for the Circus Saints and Sinners and entered an arena with Terrell Jacobs' lions.

BUSINESS FOR MOST SHOWS scored some improvements, with King-Cristiani's big takes in Canada pacing the trade.

BRITISH AFRICA ZOO, operated by Howard Y. Bary, was doing okay in Canada.

PAUL M. LEWIS, former show owner, died at Ann Arbor, Mich.

HONEST BILL NEWTON, veteran show owner, died at Fairview, Okla.

MUSICAL COMEDY AND BURLESQUE LITHOGRAPHS

ALL IN GOOD CONDITION

Titles: Showman Daughter of the Subway, Eagles Carnival, A royal Slave (Billboard Size—6 sheets), The Sensational of the 19th Century—Pawnee Bill and May Lillies, A Slave for her sake, Edison Moving Picture Vaudelli Co., Wagners Masterpiece Parsifal—taken at Metropolitan Opera House, Escaped Lunatic—with vaudeville acts and illustrated songs. See previous issue for other lithos.

MURRAY GUY

R. F. D. 2, BOX 167, JEANETTE, PA.

1954 C.H.S. CONVENTION

JULY 24, 25, 26 and 27



Bette Leonard

YOU'ALL COME! YOU'ALL COME!

YOU'ALL COME TO THE CONVENTION. I'M COMING, AND I KNOW WE WILL ALL HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME. I MISSED SEEING YOU'ALL LAST YEAR. SO I AM SURE LOOKING FORWARD TO VISITING AND JUST PLAIN TALKING CIRCUS WITH MY FOLKS.

AS A SPECIAL FEATURE THIS YEAR WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A SPECIAL SWAP SESSION ON SATURDAY NITE, JULY 24. EVERYONE BRING AS MUCH OF YOUR COLLECTION AS YOU CAN—PLAN TO MAKE A FEW GOOD SWAPS—REALLY DO A LITTLE HORSE TRADING. AND THERE WILL BE A PRIZE TO THE MEMBER WHO HAS THE BEST DISPLAY. DON'T KNOW YET WHAT THE PRIZE WILL BE—BUT IT WILL BE WORTHWHILE.

Your President,

BETTE LEONARD
